

Home Improvement Guide '66

Place Closet Handy to All

Every home needs a big cedar closet where off-season clothing can be stored. This closet should be located in a family room, hallway or basement rather than in a bedroom so that it's accessible to all members of the family.

Space under a stairway could also be enclosed, lined with cedar, and outfitted with hanging rods to create a family storage closet.

The closet lining can be either western red cedar or incense cedar boards installed without finish of any kind. But don't count on the cedar lining to do the whole job.

Be sure all clothing to be stored has been dry cleaned or laundered so there are no food

or other spots to attract a hungry moth. Also use alperger garment bags as added protection against insects and dust.

These three items—cedar closet lining, garment bags, and pre-cleaned clothing—provide triple insurance against attack from moths, silverfish and other destructive insects.

Fir Stands First

Nearly one-fourth of all lumber produced in America is Douglas fir, reports the U.S. Bureau of Census. Western pine species account for 14 percent; southern pine, 17 percent; hemlock, 7; other fir, 7; other softwood species, 11 percent, and all hardwoods, 19 percent.

Annual Home "Check-Ups" Are in Order

Paint-up, fix-up, clean-up time again looms large on homeowners' agendas. Many may be finding making notes on what points in and around the house should receive a check-up for annual care.

Authorities on the subject list areas in which homes most likely require attention. Careful, over-all inspection should be a matter of policy.

Outdoors

FOUNDATIONS may show cracks as a result of a year's weather damage, especially through ground holes at the foundation line. Masonry cracks are best filled with a pitch-based waterproofing cement.

The ground holes should be filled with sand or gravel and topped with soil or sod, as protection against future rains and more cracks in the foundations.

SIDING should be scrutinized for peeling paint, splitting, and general decay. A complete re-siding job may be indicated. In some cases, however, alternatives of re-painting, touch-up painting and replacement of damaged portions of siding will be adequate.

ROOFING inspection may show loose or warped panels or shingles, which should be replaced, or re-nailed.

CHIMNEY mortar should be filled in where necessary. Loose bricks or stones should be secured. Flashing around chimneys may need replacement, if cracked or corroded.

GUTTERS and downspouts may easily become loose and weather-worn in a year's time. Re-nailed loose parts and repoint where indicated. Clogged passages should be cleared.

WINDOWS DOORS Frames should be checked for possible air leakage. Re-caulking will keep weather out.

Grounds

LAWN GARDEN inspection and care may vary with individual taste and the green, thumb talent available. In general, holes may be filled in with sand or gravel and covered with turf.

Plans may be laid for re-seeding, fertilizing lawns, re-planting gardens.

DRIVEWAYS may reveal cracks in paving to be filled.

Try Moldings With Burlap

For an elegant wall treatment, try this. Cover the wall with burlap in natural tone or a subtle color. Then create a paneled effect with rails and stiles of screen stock, 3/4-inch thick by 2 1/2 inches wide.

Space the stiles, the vertical pieces, to match stud spacing, usually 16 inches on center. The rails, or horizontal pieces, are evenly spaced to make three panels between floor and ceiling. Rails are also used top and bottom, easing into a baseboard at the floor and a cove molding at the ceiling line.

Then outline the panels created by the rails and stiles with cap molding, mitering corners. The cap molding is applied to the edges of the rails and stiles with finish nails and glue.

All woodwork should be finished before installation. Use a coat of sealer, then stain, and finally one or two coats of clear varnish or lacquer.



PLENTY OF LIGHT AND A PICTURE-WINDOW VIEW for this room include year-round comfort, too. Windows are stock units of ponderosa pine with factory-installed weatherstripping and insulating glass. To create the room, the owners broke through the wall separating living room and patio, and enclosed the patio with sliding wood windows.

or replacement of lost gravel.

In new paving, though, should be given to convexing the driveway surface for drainage, to permit water to drain onto the lawn, rather than the street.

TREES, SHRUBS are sure to need a tidying trim. Check dead tree branches, withering shrubbery and hedges.

Indoors

HEATING EQUIPMENT should be cleaned, adjusted and, if necessary, repaired by an experienced serviceman, at least once a year. If yours is an older furnace or burner, remodeling, up-dating or complete replacement may be in order.

WALLS, CEILINGS may

show cracks or bulges which may call for professional attention. If these are not too extensive, they can be cured by the enterprising amateur with plaster, pointing tool and paint.

FLOORS may need partial replacement or complete room re-flooring. Refinishing, in some rooms at least, is usually in order.

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Alter Rooms With Seasons

Would you like to be able to switch room decor with the seasons?

It's easy to do, and not particularly expensive. The trick is accomplished with two color schemes, one in cool sea blues and mint greens for spring and summer. The other color scheme revolves around warm winter shades like deep red, antique gold, olive and shades of brown.

The furniture isn't changed when the color scheme is switched from winter to summer. Instead, chairs and sofas are slip-covered in the summer shades and accents are added with small rugs and accessories. It's amazing what a change this little trick makes—and how much wear is saved on the original upholstery.

The key to success is in having walls that let you make the color switch. Decorators suggest wood paneling, particularly softwoods like Idaho white pine, western red cedar and western hemlock which complement virtually any color scheme, yet remain important and handsome in themselves. These woods have wonderfully rich coloring, yet they're light in tone.

If vertical grain boards are chosen, the choice of patterns for upholstery and slip covers won't be limited.



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